

Message

From: Gray, David [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=881C62B1E54142388C1DE2F8E3799C33-GRAY, DAVID]
Sent: 7/13/2015 1:53:24 PM
To: Allison.majure@state.nm.us
Subject: RE: Introductions

Allison,

This will go tomorrow. No press release. I should have meeting locations to share shortly.

David

EPA is proposing to reissue a general permit for small municipal separate sewer systems in the state of New Mexico which establishes requirements to reduce pollution carried by storm water run-off. The permit requires cost effective pollution controls to protect valuable water resources throughout New Mexico.

Storm water is water from precipitation that flows across the ground and pavement when it rains or when snow and ice melt. The water drains into storm sewers and is usually not treated before it flows directly into valuable water resources. Storm water has been identified as the source of pollution for tens of thousands of miles of rivers across the county including rivers such as the Rio Grande, Santa Fe, Animas, San Juan, and La Plata.

The proposed revised permit will cover discharges to small regulated MS4s in the Urbanized Areas of El Paso, Las Cruces, Los Lunas, Santa Fe, Farmington and other areas in the State of New Mexico. Excluded from this permit are those systems in Indian Country, Los Alamos County, and the area covered by the Albuquerque Urbanized Area Middle Rio Grande MS4 permit. The proposal includes post construction pollution controls for storm water discharges.

EPA will host a number of public meetings covering the El Paso, Las Cruces, Los Lunas, Santa Fe, and Farmington Urbanized Areas during the 90 day comment period.

Water from rain and snow/ice melting is a valuable resource restoring underground water aquifers. Nearly 63% of the state of New Mexico is currently experiencing moderate to severe drought and 78% of the state of New Mexico residents get their drinking water from underground water aquifers.

The revised MS4 permit will provide statewide municipal systems more flexibility in meeting water quality requirements, and up to an additional two years to develop or upgrade local pollution control programs. The revised permit authorizes discharges for some eighteen eligible jurisdictions within the state.

Currently, the state has issued a number of TMDLs for E. Coli, PCBs, gross alpha, dissolved oxygen and temperature. The permit outlines encourages and provides the flexibility to select lower-cost readily available control practices to significantly reduce pollution from storm water run-off that flows into watersheds throughout the communities.

From: Gray, David
Sent: Thursday, July 02, 2015 2:31 PM
To: 'Allison.majure@state.nm.us'
Subject: Introductions

Allison,

I am remiss for not introducing myself to you earlier. I am director of communications for EPA in Dallas, Texas. I worked closely with several of your predecessors at NMED and look forward to working with you. I have been here since 1995 so if you ever need anything from EPA – please don't hesitate to contact me directly.

I wanted to make certain that you were aware of our plans to propose a general permit for storm water next week. I realize that I am catching you right before the Holiday break so we can talk on Monday if you need any more information. Our water quality department has been in contact with the NMED water program folks – so they have the details.

I will work to keep you posted of our activities in New Mexico. Welcome aboard (belated) and I look forward to working with you.

Regards,

David

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